

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1857  
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2026  
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 1857  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH CARE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to implement the  
recommendations of the Hawaii State Center for Nursing's  
Healthcare Provider Barriers to Practice Law Review Task Group to  
remove existing barriers within professional practice acts and  
support expanded access to care throughout the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Department of Education; Department of Health; University  
of Hawai'i at Hilo; Board of Nursing; Hawaii Affiliate of the  
American College of Nurse Midwives; Hawai'i State Center for  
Nursing; Hawai'i Psychological Association; Hawai'i Association of  
Professional Nurses; Hawaii Medical Association; Hawai'i - American  
Nurses Association; Hawai'i Academy of Family Physicians  
Legislative Committee; Hawai'i Pharmacists Association; Kua'ana  
Project; American Association of Nurse Practitioners; Hawai'i  
Academy of Physician Assistants; and six individuals. Your  
Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of  
Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Labor and Industrial  
Relations; Department of Human Services; Department of the  
Attorney General; Board of Naturopathic Medicine; Board of

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Pharmacy; Board of Psychology; Hawaii Medical Board; Board of Physical Therapy; Hawai'i Association of Nurse Anesthesiology; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that, in 2022, the Hawaii State Center for Nursing convened an interprofessional task group, including advanced practice registered nurses, physician assistants, psychologists, pharmacists, and physicians, to review health care-related provisions of the Hawaii Revised Statutes as compared to each profession's scope of practice established in state law. The task group examined more than five hundred statutes and found widespread inconsistencies in statutory terminology related to health care providers. The task group also identified numerous areas of statute with restrictive language that act as barriers to health care providers practicing within their profession's scope of practice. As a result of the task group's analysis, this measure proposes amendments to nearly two hundred statutes to enable health care providers to fully practice within their scope of practice and fulfill their health care duties for their patients, which will improve access to care in the State.

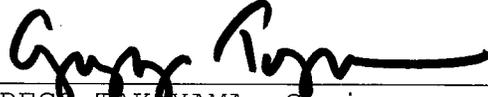
Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1857, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1857, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.



Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Health,



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GREG TAKAYAMA, Chair



